

# MINERS PERISH

## Terrible Disaster in Illinois Coal Mine.

### FALL FIRE IS THE CAUSE.

When it the St. Paul Coal Company Mine May Prove One of the Worst Tragedies in the List of Horrors.

Special.—Many officials of the St. Paul Coal Company say that an explosion occurred in the mine which killed four hundred men and women. Twelve bodies were taken out. Six of these were not employed in the mine, but were there to save the imprisoned workers.

The Superintendent James Steele said five hours after the explosion it was almost impossible that any of the miners still imprisoned could have escaped.

The mine had a day shift of 484 men. Of these fifty left the mine at 10 o'clock. Twenty-five or more escaped when the fire broke out. The others are believed to be dead.

The entrance to the mine has been closed up in the hope of checking the fire. The building above the pit was blown up to permit this. The frantic efforts of the officials and the scores of volunteer assistants in the little town of Cherry it is estimated that only 25 of the dead would be taken out of the mine.

Until Sunday morning when the covering will be removed and rescuers endeavor to penetrate the smoke and gas choked shaft. The fate of the inmates is not known.

The fire causing the explosion may prove one of the greatest tragedies in the list of mine horrors, an origin almost trivial. A pile of coal allowed to smolder too long before the workers realized their danger, the mine was filled with gas, and all exit was impossible.

### TERRIBLE CLEAN CALAMITY.

#### Ship Aflame and 100 Go Down—61 Rescued With Great Peril.

Singapore, By Cable.—The mailer La Seyne of the Messageries Maritime service running between Europe and Singapore, and on her way to this port, was in collision early Sunday morning with the steamer Ma of the British-India line, and sank within two minutes. Seven European passengers, including Baron and Baroness Beniczky, the captain and La Seyne, five European officers and 88 others comprising native passengers and members of the crew, were drowned.

The rescue of 61 persons, practically from the jaws of shoals of rocks, formed a thrilling incident of the wreck.

The accident occurred at 4 o'clock the morning in a thick haze. The vessels were steaming at good speed. The La Seyne was cut almost in half. The majority of those in board were caught in their berths and carried down with the vessel.

The force of the collision brought the Onada almost a dead stop and her engines were at once slowed and cut loosed. The rescue work proved thrilling, for not only were the rescue parties impeded by the ark, but schools of sharks were already attacking those clinging to pieces of wreckage in the water.

Sixty-one persons from the ill-fated steamer were finally dragged into the boats and brought by the Onada to his port. Many of them had been bitten by sharks and several are severely injured.

#### Three Die in a Fire.

Special.—Three unknown persons, all foreigners, are dead and five others are seriously injured, and twelve men and women are suffering from bruises and shock, the result of an early morning fire in a Polish lodging house on the river front Sunday. When the fire broke out at 4 o'clock about thirty persons were asleep in the building. Firemen aroused the occupants of the place and carried the women and children to safety.

#### Death From Football.

Washington, Special.—Football has claimed another victim in Archer Christian, the 18-year-old left-half-back of the University of Virginia team whose injury in the game with Georgetown University Saturday afternoon was followed by his death at Georgetown University hospital Sunday morning. The body was taken to Richmond Sunday afternoon for burial.

# PRESIDENT TAFT AT HOME

## Ends Great Tour With a Day of Enjoyment in Richmond—Visits Places of Historic Interest and Outlines Some of His Coming Message to Congress.

Richmond, Va., Special.—"During my sixty days of travel there has been a moment or two of deliberation and during that time I have been studying what is the duty of an executive to recommend to an incoming Congress in respect to future legislation and when I think of the number of things that Congress ought to do, I am staggered lest it may not find time to do them."

In the final speech of his 13,000-mile trip through the West and South before an immense audience Wednesday afternoon, President Taft thus prefaced a preliminary statement of some of the recommendations of his first annual message to Congress would contain.

He declared himself in favor of the reclamation of arid lands in the West, and of the issuing of bonds for the purpose and of some government control over waterpower sites and coal and phosphate lands, "so that they may not come into the hands of one controlling corporation, but may be retained by the government, with the power to restrict the prices at which coal, or at least at which the power is sold to prevent the absorption into one command of all the power on the continent."

The anti-trust law, he declared, needs enforcing, and the interstate commerce law an amendment "in order to give the interstate commerce tribunal more power to prevent the delays which are now incident to appeals to the courts."

He voiced his favor of a postal savings bank and declared that "we must improve our legal procedure so as to make it both in criminal and civil cases more simple, more rapid and less expensive, and I mean to recommend to Congress the appointment of a commission to take up that subject."

Mr. Taft said he believed the time had come for the organization of a Federal health bureau.

During the morning he visited Old St. John church, where Patrick Henry made his famous "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" speech, and went from there to St. Paul's church, where Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, received the message from General Lee, saying that the Confederate forces must evacuate Petersburg and leave Richmond unprotected. He also visited the Confederate museum. He made the comment there that the picture of Jefferson Davis which belonged to the museum did not compare in excellence with the one in the War Department at Washington. The museum officials said they probably would apply to the Secretary of War for permission to have a copy made of the painting at Washington.

The President's talk to the negro delegation was devoted mostly to the subject of education. He said he would attend a meeting of the board of trustees at Hampton Institute on November 20 and felt a very deep interest in the work of that institution as well as the Booker Washington school at Tuskegee, Ala. The influence of those two schools in the importance they were giving to industrial and agricultural education the President said, was beginning at last to be felt throughout the South.

The President lunched at the Jefferson hotel, delivered his principal address at the city auditorium, and left at 5:15 p. m. for Washington.

A Washington dispatch says that after an absence of more than three months during which he made a 13,000 mile trip through the West and South, President Taft slept Wednesday night in the White House.

#### Boiler Explosion Kills Two.

Palatka, Fla., Special.—A boiler at the plant of the Palatka Gas, Light and Fuel Company exploded Tuesday afternoon at 6:30 o'clock, killing two negro firemen, almost completely demolishing the plant and causing the city to be in darkness Tuesday night. Houses for blacks around were shaken almost off their foundations, and window panes nearby were broken.

#### Hurricane in Jamaica.

Colon, By Cable.—Communication between this place and the Ball bay cable station, Jamaica, was re-established for a short time Monday afternoon, but was lost again and there has been no word from that point since. The sea here is very high and another storm from the north seems to threaten. It was reported here Wednesday night that Porto Rico and some of the other West Indian Islands besides Jamaica had been cut off, which would seem to indicate that perhaps another earthquake had occurred at Jamaica.

#### Awful Crash of Runaway Car.

Vancouver, B. C., Special.—Fifteen persons were killed and seven injured, two perhaps fatally Wednesday when a runaway car crashed into a crowded passenger car on the British Railway Company's interurban line. The motorman and conductor of the freight train were among the killed. The passengers were mostly workmen bound for New Westminster.

# SNAPPY AND BRIEF

## Items Gathered and Told While You Hold Your Breath.

### SOME EVERY DAY HAPPENINGS

#### Lively and Crisp as They Are Garnered From the Fields of Action at Home and Abroad.

It is now estimated that Warriner pocketed \$2,000,000 of the Big Four's earnings that came into his hands.

Annie Pelley, a young vigorous and powerful shop girl was foully murdered in Cario, Ill., Monday night. From her torn clothing scattered along an alley it is believed she put up a game fight for her purity and her life but odds seemed against her and her voice was stifled with a heavy cloth gag. The confessed criminal was lynched Thursday.

J. H. Bryant and Randal Barber were instantly killed while crossing the S. A. L. Ry., in a wagon near Tampa, Fla.

There is said to be another woman in the Warriner defalcation though it is said she will only be a witness and one knowing where the stealing went but not getting any of it herself.

John R. Hare, of Baltimore, has evolved what he believes to be an improved type of dirigible balloon. He will inclose all the machinery in a cylinder that will be open at the ends thereby protecting it from damage by tree tops, etc. He will also provide for saving the gas of an overcharged balloon to be utilized when needed. Scientific men pronounce the plan feasible.

James Thielen, head waiter at Delmonico's, N. Y., died recently worth half a million dollars, which he saved out of his wages and tips and invested judiciously.

Thomas Jefferson Hall killed the cashier, J. H. Fawcett and probably mortally wounded the president, Jno. K. Woodward, Thursday in a reckless effort to rob the Merchants National Bank of Louisville, Ky. He was captured and narrowly escaped violence.

Mrs. Jeannette Stewart, accused by Charles L. Warriner of sharing the proceeds of his defalcation of \$643,000 from the Big Four Ry., says she did not share in it at all but that she knows all about the defalcation and will tell it in court.

E. M. Davis, head of the Mathison Alkali Works, Bristol, Tenn., was driving his auto at a high speed in the country Wednesday and on a turn ran into a wagon, the tongue of which struck him in the face. He has a narrow chance of life.

Hamburg Belle, a famous trotter, that sold recently for \$50,000, died on the farm of her owner near Thomasville, Ga., on Wednesday, of pneumonia.

Paris now has a sensation in the trial of Mme. Steinheil for the murder of her husband and step-mother. The judges of the court do the vehement accusing and she parries their assaults with consummate cleverness. She seems now to be getting the better of public sentiment at least.

Alexander Miller, for twenty years the private secretary to the late E. H. Harriman, says that great financier was never known to swear and was intense and fervent in his religious beliefs.

The American Federation of Labor in meeting at Toronto, Canada, committed the organization to sustain President Gompers, vice president Mitchell and secretary Morrison in their fight to evade the sentence of imprisonment.

Col. G. R. Colton was inaugurated governor of Porto Rico last Saturday.

Joe Wells and John Clark, farmers of near Mint Springs, Ala., quarreled over some liquor Sunday morning and drew their guns. They fired at the same instant with perfect aim. Both are dead.

William W. Robinson, editor of the Roswell Register-Tribune, was tendered the governorship of his own New Mexico Territory but declines to serve. He would rather be editor than governor.

Four employes are dead and the lives of many more were endangered in Jersey City, when the engine of the Philadelphia and New York express Sunday morning jumped the track and butted into an engine and tender on the other track.

It is said that Mrs. John Jacob Astor will get her divorce secretly, not suing for alimony, but her husband will settle \$10,000,000 upon her and she will live abroad.

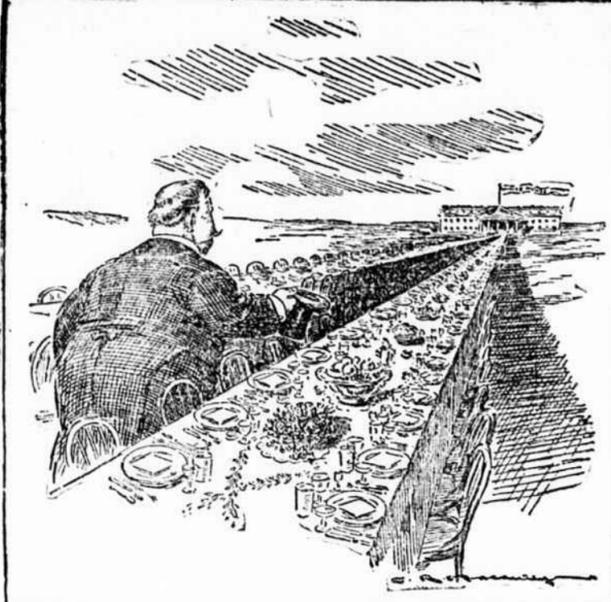
President Taft asked for a chat with Ty Cobb at Augusta Monday and of course was accorded the honor.

It is announced that the North Dakota is the fastest battleship afloat of the Dreadnaught type.

Alderman Bernard W. Snow has offered an ordinance requiring all trains entering Chicago to be moved by electric power, declaring that smoke is so vitiating the air as to be a death scourge among babies.

The net loss to the Big Four railway through the defalcation of C. L. Warriner, it is said will be \$500,000. He seems to have gotten away with \$643,000 but has made good \$100,000 and the surety company must come up with \$50,000.

# ON THE HOMESTRETCH.



—Cartoon by C. R. Macauley, in the New York World.

## OUTLINE OF PRESIDENT TAFT'S ANNUAL MESSAGE.

### Roosevelt Policies to Be Commended to Congress and Corporations the Chief Topic—Better Anti-Trust Law, Railroad Rate Court and Anti-Stock Watering Plan to Be Recommended—Conservative Regarding Mississippi—Commission Government for Alaska.

Augusta, Ga. — The keynote of President Taft's message to the coming session of Congress will be this statement:

"This Administration was elected on a platform that we proposed to carry out the policies of Theodore Roosevelt, and we propose to keep that promise."

The President reserves to himself the right to decide what those policies are. He has said in public addresses that he, more than any other man, perhaps, had been in a position to know just what Roosevelt did or did not believe.

"Mr. Roosevelt's chief policy," he has said, "was the determination to make the great corporations of the country obey the law, and those corporations included the railroads and the great industrial corporations that do a large industrial business and that have shown a tendency to monopolize that business and suppress competition."

Mr. Taft has indicated clearly enough in his speeches what his message will be. It will recommend an unusually long program for Congress and one that is likely to revive a good deal of the hostility shown to the Roosevelt Administration on the score of the railroad rate legislation.

That the President has been looking forward to the possibility of serious opposition within the ranks of his own party is indicated by his recent speeches.

Mr. Taft will recommend a court of five members in order that when the Interstate Commerce Commission shall decide a rate is unreasonable a reasonable rate may be made at once, with no appeal on the part of the railroads except to the Supreme Court. This is to make the Hepburn rate bill effective. He will point out that the five judges, having no other business before them, can not only expedite legislation, but naturally will become rate experts.

There will be also a recommendation of a tribunal that will pass on how many bonds and how many shares of stock every interstate railroad may issue, to prevent the watering of stock. At one time the President said: "This is important, because when you water stock you only do it to deceive people and get them to pay more than the stock is worth."

Further, Mr. Taft said, it is wrong because it builds a false foundation on which to reckon what reasonable freight rates are.

To further expedite the work of making railroads obey the law, the President will recommend a reorganization of the Bureau of Corporations, and the Department of Justice that the three may work progressively and not be stumbling over one another, as they are under the present system. But the President will make it clear that he is not attacking corporations that he recognizes legitimately. His own expression on that subject is:

"We could not get along without corporations. They are a necessary instrument in the business of the country. But as we give them privileges, so they must recognize the responsibility with which they exercise power, and we must have the means of compelling them to recognize that responsibility and to keep them within the law."

The President will recommend an amendment to the anti-trust law that he thinks will make it effective. The present terms are so broad that in his mind it is not enforceable, as it makes no distinction between a reasonable and an unreasonable restraint of trade—a difference that is recognized by the common law. He will recommend that the law be amended to narrow and confine it to combinations and conspiracies to suppress competition and establish monopolies, and to leave out the denunciations of general restraints of trade. He will not recommend that labor unions be specifically

#### Insanity Caused Strange Auto

Deaths in Chicago. Chicago.—The body of Ernst Camp, the chauffeur who drove his automobile with two passengers into the river Sunday night, has been recovered. The bodies of Miss Beatrice Shapiro and Max Cohen are still in the river. It has been learned that Camp's parents are insane, and the theory of the police is that he was also. The tragedy has aroused a public demand for an ordinance requiring mental and physical examination of all men who drive automobiles.

#### All Future Boston Schoolhouses to Have Sun and Fresh-Air Rooms.

Boston.—All new school buildings erected in this city in the future are to contain sun and fresh-air rooms, according to a communication to be sent by the School Commission to the Schoolhouse Commission. A report containing such a recommendation was adopted at a special meeting. A committee of the board also has under consideration a plan for utilizing the roof of the present buildings, and it is probable that a recommendation will be made on this.

# WASHINGTON NOTES

In an opinion by Justice Holmes the Supreme Court of the United States decided against the complainants the case of the 13,000 Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians who asked for redress for being excluded from the citizenship rolls of those nations when they were prepared by Secretary Hitchcock, of the Interior Department, on March 4, 1907.

Since the German naval strength in the last year has jumped over that of France in tonnage afloat and over the United States in tonnage afloat and under construction the question as to whether the United States should increase her building program will be taken under consideration at once by the General Board, with Captain Andrews, naval adviser to the Secretary of the Navy, participating.

Capt. William A. Marshall, who has commanded the armored cruiser North Carolina since that vessel was placed in commission two years ago, has been selected by Rear-Admiral W. P. Potter, Chief of Navigation, as commandant of the Norfolk Navy Yard. It is expected that the selection will be approved by Secretary Meyer and orders issued this week.

The production of 78.8 per cent of a full crop of peanuts for 1909 is estimated by the Department of Agriculture in a crop report issued Monday. This is a decrease of 4.2 per cent, from last year's crop.

Among the first questions which will be presented for the consideration of Congress when it convenes will be the change of the date of inauguration Day. Commissioner Henry B. F. MacFarland, chairman of the national committee, announced, backed up by the Governors of 46 States, by strong popular support of the movement and a batch of photographs which would give any Senator past the age of 40, a pulmonary shiver, Mr. MacFarland will begin the assault with heavy ammunition. The committee will also present statistics showing the death toll from pneumonia contracted by visitors and the soldiery last inauguration. The local members feel that their efforts will meet with success.

The recommendation of the joint army and navy board that Pearl Harbor, in the Hawaiian islands, be made the great naval station in the Pacific was approved Thursday by President Taft. In doing this it was decided that a temporary naval station only would be constructed at Olongapo and that the proposed improvement of Manila harbor be abandoned. This will leave the protection of the Philippine islands to the army.

British capital practically has captured the South American commercial field and American business men will have to exert the most strenuous efforts to overcome the lead the Englishmen have acquired in that section of the world. This is the warning issued by Alfred A. Winslow, United States Consul at Valparaiso, Chile. He reports to the Department of Commerce and Labor that the amount of money invested by Britons in South American industries has reached the enormous sum of \$3,290,023,300, which is divided among investments in Government and municipal bonds, railroads, commercial interests and banks. The prospects for business there are unlimited, but American manufacturers and business men must seek it earnestly and furnish better goods than their European competitors to capture it.

Engineering problems as presented in the construction of the Union Station and the Connecticut avenue bridge here were studied Saturday by the members of the Appalachian Engineering Association in a day of sightseeing about the city, spent in examining engineering works and discussing topics of interest with members of the Forestry Bureau, Geological Survey and other Government establishments.

Leading officers of the naval militia of various States discussed at a conference here Saturday a plan of campaign to induce Congress to extend to the naval militia of the country the provisions of the Dick National Guard law. Those attending were: Capt. Warren F. Purdy, Illinois; Commander Joseph M. Mitheson, Pennsylvania; Capt. James P. Parker, Massachusetts; Cap. Edward M. Peters, New Jersey; Capt. S. W. Stratton, District of Columbia, and Commander Charles C. Marsh, of the Navy Department.

Word has been received here from Senor de la Barra, Mexican Ambassador to the United States, announcing the death of his wife, Senora de la Barra, in Paris. She had been in failing health for the last two years and was not able to accompany her husband to the United States, when he arrived here last February, having been promoted from the position of Minister at Brussels to that of Ambassador at Washington.